



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

House Resolution No. 5

LCO No. 2178



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION
AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
(GAE)

**RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTEENTH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONNECTICUT-TAIWAN SISTER-STATE
RELATIONSHIP.**

Resolved by this House:

1 WHEREAS, the state of Connecticut and the Republic of China
2 (Taiwan) have enjoyed a long history of friendship and have
3 maintained the fruitful sister-state relationship encompassing cultural,
4 educational and economic exchanges for many years; and

5 WHEREAS, the state of Connecticut exported 122.9 million dollars'
6 worth of products to Taiwan in 2014, making Taiwan one of the major
7 foreign markets for Connecticut, and will keep further strengthening
8 our economic ties; and

9 WHEREAS, as a full-fledged democracy and robust free market
10 economy, Taiwan shares with the United States the principles and
11 values that provide a strong foundation for mutually beneficial
12 relations; and

13 WHEREAS, Taiwan's inclusion in the United States Visa Waiver
14 Program on November 1, 2012, allows Taiwan and the United States,

15 including the sister-state of Connecticut, to develop closer relations
16 and to witness rapid growth in all areas of bilateral development; and

17 WHEREAS, Taiwan is one of the strongest democratic allies of the
18 United States in Asia and spares no effort to maintain peace and
19 prosperity in East Asia as evidenced by the East China Sea Peace
20 Initiative proposed by President Ma Ying-jeou; and

21 WHEREAS, the United States has assisted Taiwan in participating
22 in the World Health Assembly (WHA) as an observer in 2009, and will
23 continue supporting Taiwan's participation in other United Nations-
24 affiliated organizations such as the International Civil Aviation
25 Organization (ICAO) and the United Nations Framework Convention
26 on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the International Criminal Police
27 Organization; and

28 WHEREAS, the United States and Taiwan share a long-term and
29 close economic relationship, including 67.4 billion dollars in bilateral
30 trade in 2014, making Taiwan the tenth largest trading partner of the
31 United States; and

32 WHEREAS, in order to strengthen the bilateral trade relations with
33 the United States, the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan)
34 has expressed its wish to participate in the Trans-Pacific Strategic
35 Economic Partnership Agreement (TTP) and to sign a Bilateral
36 Investment Agreement (BIA) and a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with
37 the United States in the near future and the United States and the state
38 of Connecticut will benefit from Taiwan's inclusion in the TTP, which
39 will increase United States' exports by over 50 billion dollars; and

40 WHEREAS, the Connecticut House of Representatives wishes to
41 congratulate President-elect Tsai Ing-wen and Vice President-elect
42 Chen Chien-jen on their victory in Taiwan's presidential election on
43 January 16, 2016 and to welcome Dr. Tsai as the first female president
44 of Taiwan in its history.

45 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut House
46 of Representatives pause in its deliberations to recognize the
47 seventeenth anniversary of the Connecticut-Taiwan Sister-State
48 Relationship, and reiterate its support of a closer economic and trade
49 partnership between the United States and the Republic of China
50 (Taiwan); and

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the clerk of the House of
52 Representatives cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to the
53 President of the Republic of China (Taiwan) through the Taipei
54 Economic and Cultural Office in New York.